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HARDY FERNS

Most of our native ferns can be easily cultivated, especially those which grow naturally in the woods. They do well in shady and half-shady places in the garden and park, and are often useful for growing close to houses in corners which are too dark for most plants. On the other hand, many of them will grow in places which receive considerable direct sunlight, though very few enjoy full exposure to the sun, at least under ordinary garden conditions.

Most ferns do best in a light soil containing much vegetable matter, and it is always best to work a considerable amount of leaf mould into the soil of a fern bed. While few ferns grow well in very dry soil, the common notion that they require very wet or almost swampy conditions is not well founded. Most of them, even those that grow naturally in very wet places, do nicely under ordinary garden treatment, in the matter of moisture.

While the native ferns are, of course, perfectly hardy, most of them are better off with a light covering of leaves in winter. In their natural habitat they are usually well covered with leaves and snow throughout the winter.

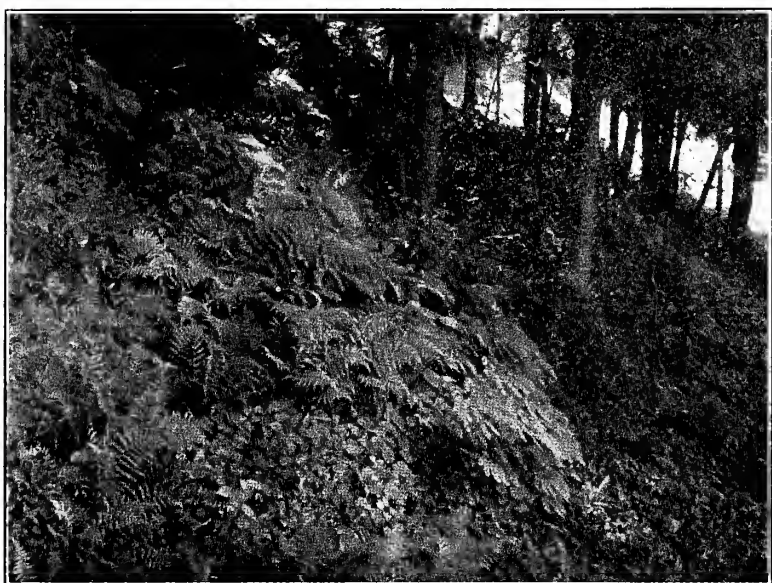
Among the best of our larger ferns for cultivation are the Ostrich, the Cinnamon, the Wood Fern, and the Goldies Fern; of the medium large are the Lady Fern, the Marsh Shield Fern, the Maidenhair, the Evergreen and Sensitive Fern. Rock and Cliff Ferns are rather hard to establish in the garden.

The native hardy ferns do not make satisfactory house plants. Most of them ripen up their leaves in the fall and remain dormant all winter, even under the most favorable conditions.

ADIANTUM PEDATUM, Maidenhair Fern. One to three feet high. Frond, forked at the summit of the slender, polished, black stalk, the recurved branches bearing on one side several slender, spreading pinnate divisions; pinnae oblique, triangular oblong.

For purposes of identification it would seem almost superfluous to describe the Maidenhair—a plant which probably is more generally appreciated than all the rest of the ferns together.

Despite its apparent fragility, the Maidenhair is not difficult to cultivate. Its chosen haunts are dim, moist hollows in the woods or shaded, sloping hillsides. In such retreats you find the feathery fronds tremulous on their black, glistening stalks. Each



MAIDENHAIR FERN (*Adiantum pedatum*), AND LADY FERN (*Asplenium felix faemina*).

ASPLENIUM FELIX FÆMINA, Lady Fern. One to three feet high, with tripled, straw-colored or brownish stalks. Frond, broad and lance-shaped, tapering toward the apex of pinnae; pinnae lance-shaped; pinnules oblong, lanceolate, toothed or incised. The earliest fronds uncurl in May. In June the plant is very graceful and pleasing and resembles somewhat the Boston Fern. Each

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ASPLENIUM THELYPTEROIDES, Silver Spleenwort. One to three feet high. Fronds lance-shaped, tapering both ways from the middle, once pinnate; pinnae linear-lanceolate, fruit dots oblong; indisium silvery when young.

The Silver Spleenwort is adapted to a range from Canada to Alabama and does well under cultivation. Each

ASPIDIUM CRISTATUM (*Dryopteris cristata*), Evergreen Fern. One to more than three feet high; stalks of sterile fronds much shorter than those of fertile fronds. Fronds linear-oblong or lance-shaped, nearly twice pinnate; pinnae rather short, deeply impressed with veins, cut deeply into oblong, obtuse, finely-toothed divisions; fruit dots large, round, half-way between midvein and margin; indusium large, flat. Each

ASPIDIUM GOLDIANA (*Dryopteris Goldiana*), Goldie's Fern. Two to more than four feet high, with stalks which are chaffy near the base. Fronds broadly ovate, once pinnate; pinnae pinnatifid, oblong-linear, slightly toothed; indisium very large. This fern ranks with the *Osmundas* and with the Ostrich Fern in size and vigorous beauty. Each

ASPIDIUM SPINULOSUM, Wood Fern. The plant varies greatly in height, breadth and way of holding itself. Sometimes the fronds stand three feet high and are broad and spreading. Again they are tall, slender and somewhat erect. At its best it grows with almost tropical luxuriance and is a plant of rare beauty, its fronds having a certain feathery aspect. Each

OSMUNDACEA, Royal Fern Family, also called Flowering Ferns, because their fruiting fronds are somewhat flowerlike in appearance.

OSMUNDA CINNAMOMEA, Cinnamon Fern. A large fern growing in a crown two to five feet high. Sterile fronds broadly lance-shaped, once pinnate; pinnae cut into

broadly oblong divisions that do not reach the midvein, each pinnae with a tuft of rusty wool at its base beneath. The plant is a superb one when seen at its best. Its tall, sterile fronds curve gracefully outward. The Osmundas are easily cultivated and group themselves effectively in



WOOD FERN (*Aspidium spinulosum*).

shaded corners, while they will do fairly well in the most exposed sunlight. Each

OSMUNDA CLAYTONIANA, Interrupted Fern. Its appearance is very much like the Cinnamon Fern, and it is easily cultivated. Each

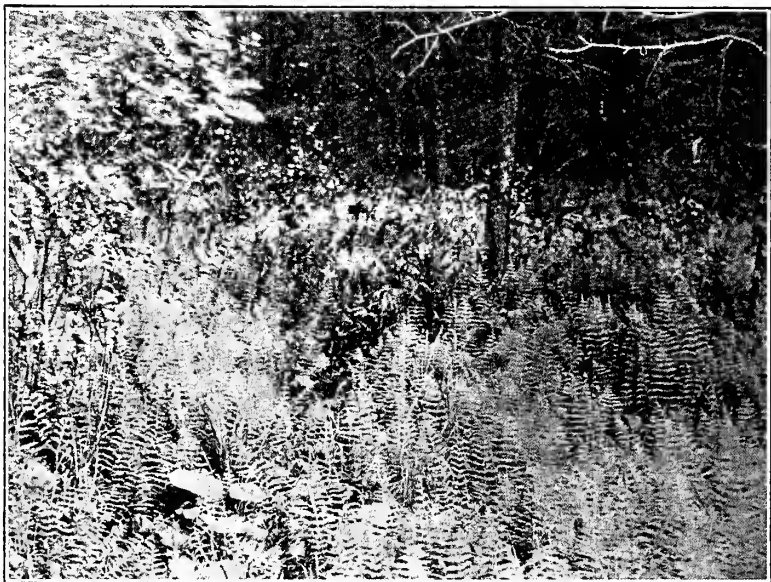
DRYOPTERIS THELYPTERIS, Marsh Shield Fern. Fronds lance-shaped, slightly downy, once pinnate, fertile



OSMUNDA IN THE BACKGROUND AND SHIELD FERN IN THE FOREGROUND.

fronds longer stalked than the sterile; pinnae, the lower ones, hardly smaller than the others, cut into oblong, entire lobes, which are obtuse in the sterile fronds, but appear acute in the fertile ones from the strongly revolute margin; veins once or twice forked; two to three feet and over. Each

ONOCLEA SENSIBILIS, Sensitive Fern. Sterile fronds 6 to 36 in. high, broadly triangular, deeply cut into



MARSH SHIELD FERN (*Dryopteris thelypteris*).



STERILE LEAVES OF SENSITIVE FERN (*Onoclea sensibilis*).

LUDVIG MOSBÆK

FERNDALE

Askov, Minn., September 1st, 1915.

Gentlemen:

Hardy Ferns are fast becoming one of the most useful, decorative plants for Parks, Cemeteries, Private Gardens and Groves. Thousands are sold annually to almost every state in the union and I will be very thankful to learn what varieties have done best in the different localities and under what special conditions and treatment, also what varieties you have tried which have not done so well or have been a complete failure, and the cause of same if known. I will be very much obliged to you for any information about varieties you have tried or know about in your locality.

I will be pleased to book your order for fall shipment in October, November or any time during the winter. In the fall when dormant, these Ferns can be shipped any distance by freight, even if they should be 2 months on the road it will not hurt them. When they arrive put them in a cool cellar or dump them outside and cover with saw dust or any material that will keep sun and wind from the roots. If not frozen a sprinkling of water will not hurt the roots. When planted a good soaking of the soil around the roots to compact the soil will benefit them and a mulch of saw dust or any other good mulching material will insure success. I have an extra good supply of strong plants and will fill any order large or small promptly.

Yours very truly,

LUDVIG MOSBÆK.

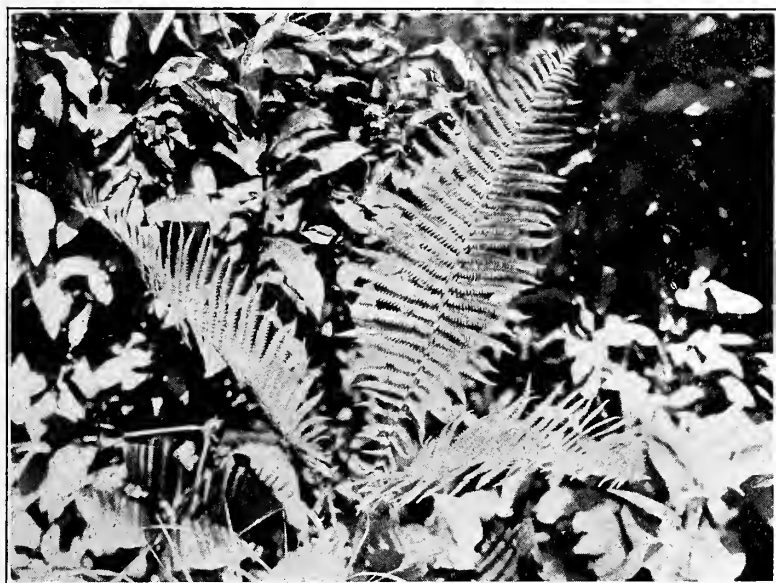
	Per 100	10	Each
Adiantum Pedatum, Maidenhair	\$6.00	.70	.10
Aspidium, Wood Fern	6.00	.70	.10
Asplenium Felix Fæmina, Lady Fern..	6.00	.70	.10
Aspl. Thelypl., Silver Spleenworth	6.00	.70	.10
Dryopteris Thelypteris, Shield Fern ...	5.00	.60	.10
Onoclea Sensibilis	4.00	.50	.10
Osmunda, Cinnamon	7.00	.80	.10
Onoclea Strutiopteris, Ostrich Fern....	8.00	.90	.10

	Per 100	10	Each
Aspidium Goldiana	\$7.00	.80	.10
Aspidium Cristatum Evergreen Fern ...	6.00	.70	.10
Osmunda Claytoniana	7.00	.80	.10
Pteris Aquilina Brake	3.00	.50	.10

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somewhat oblong, wavy, toothed divisions, the lower ones almost reaching the midrib, the upper ones less deeply cut. Fertile fronds quite unlike the sterile fronds and shorter, erect, rigid, contracted; pinnules rolled up into dark green, berry-like bodies which hold the spore-cases. Each

ONOCLEA STRUTIOPTERIS, Ostrich Fern. Grows in a crown three to ten feet high. Fronds broadly lance-shaped, once pinnate; pinnae divided into narrow, oblong



OSTRICH FERN (*Onoclea struthiopteris*).

segments which do not reach the midvein. Great plume-like frond of a rich green. This magnificent plant luxuriates on soil which is subject to an annual overflow. Its vase-like masses of foliage suggest the Cinnamon Fern, but the fertile fronds are dark green while those of the Cinnamon Fern are golden brown. The Ostrich Fern does well under cultivation and it propagates sometimes by means of underground runners. Each

The foregoing described varieties represent the types most useful and most easily cultivated for decorative purposes, for planting in private gardens and parks. They can be shipped almost any distance in the fall when dormant, by freight. The heaviest for shipping is the *Osmunda*. When received in the fall put them into a pile, place some straw or leaves over them, and give them a good soaking. Do not be afraid to let them freeze. They will come out in fine shape in the spring. For spring shipments I would recommend express.

I will be pleased to quote special prices on large quantities.

Fall shipping begins in September and October, when plants are ripe and dormant, and can ship all through the winter and spring.

Packing charged extra at cost.

All the ferns offered are not less than three years old, except the Brake and Sensitive Ferns, which are supplied from underground runners.

Brake Fern I do not quote any more, because it is a poor transplanter.

LUDVIG MOSBÆK

¹⁷⁷
Ferndale, Askov, Minnesota.